# CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

# INFORMATION REPORT

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OUNTRY	Rumania	# T		REPORT				25X1
UBJECT .	Health and San	itary Conditions i	n Cluj	DATE DIS	TR.		February	1953
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3*	fevers	25X1
	There were no deaths in the 1948-1950 period from cholera,	20/(1
	typhus, plague, yellow fever or leprosy. A case of leprosy was identified about two years ago; this was the third such case in the	*.
۲.	last 20 years. The individual was sent to a leprosarium in	
	Tighilisti, a town in the Dobrogea area. there	25X1
	are several towns known as Tighilisti.	20/(1
	The NIS Gazetteer	
	does not list Tighilisti. It does, however, list two towns called Tighilesti, one of which is at 4437N-2805E, which is in the	
	vicinity of Dobrogea (4400N-2800E).7	
4.	There were no deaths in the period 1948-1950 from smallpox, malaria,	
	amoebic or bacillary dysentery. There were many forms of tubercu-	
	losis among the people, and many deaths as a result of it. It is possible that malaria led to some deaths as a secondary cause.	
	Some deaths occurred among children which were attributed to an	
	unspecified form of dysentery.	
=	min day years and department of the second s	
2 *	The following diseases were endemic: typhoid, tuberculosis, syphilis influenza, whooping cough, measles, and epidemic hepatitis (the latte	3.9
	disease is now known in Rumania as Botkin's Disease, after the great	1 <del></del>
	Russian doctor who had engaged in studies on the disease).	25X1
Wat		
6.	Cluj had a public water supply system. The waterworks was on Grigorescu Street, on the left bank of the Somes River, near the	
	Grigorescu Street, on the left bank of the Somes River, near the	
	Children's Asylum (Azilul de Copii). The water was obtained from the Somes, and was subjected to a sand filtration.	05)(4
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	Pressure in the	
	mains was created mechanically.	
		o <sub>r</sub>
		1
7 ×	This water system could furnish water to the whole population	25X1
	About 90% of the city's inhabitants used the system	
	there were private wells in the city's outskirts used by the	J.:: ,
	inhabitants there.	
0		
O.W.	Chemical and bacteriological analysis of the water was performed by	
	the Hygiene Section of the Public Health Office. The water could be drunk directly from the tap, without further treatment.	25 <b>X</b> 1
	No bottled water was used Some	
	people, for dietary reasons only, occasionally drank a mineral water known as "Hebe", but no one used "Hebe" because of any question	25 <b>X</b> 1
	known as "Hebe", but no one used "Hebe" because of any question	•
	about the city water's potability. Since the Somes River is not	
	navigable, there were no ships to be supplied with water from the public system.	
	Example and the second of the	05344
9.	no water supply available in Cluj, other than the public	25 <b>X</b> 1
	system and private wells on the city's periphery.	25X1X1
	industrial firms obtained their water public system.	
	Example of MANAGES	

### Food

In Cluj, all food stores were State-owned and were inspected by sanitary officers from the Ministry of Health. A regular meat supply in the stores has been unheard of for several years. Slaughter-houses were inspected by veterinarians who stamped the meat acceptable at those points. However, physicians were employed to inspect 10.

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hygienic conditions where meat was served. viz., State restaurants 25X1 and canteens. sanitary food 25X1 control existed only on paper. There were very few restaurants in Rumania. Those which were available were very crowded and sanitary conditions were poor; no tablecloths were supplied.

- 11. The shortage of food in Rumania was the worst ever experienced by the inhabitants. Milk was rationed to selected outlets. Hospitals, even the children's hospitals, received insufficient amounts. In Cluj, large concerns received milk for the workers; the milk was then distributed according to political criteria. The public supplied itself with milk furnished secretly by farmers. These transactions were carried on covertly because the peasants were required to sell their milk to the State at a fixed low price and were obliged to supply a definite quota based on the number of cows and water buffalo which they owned. Thus, very little milk was consumed by the average citizen.
- 12. No pasteurized milk was available in Cluj, except possibly for the children. Pasteurized milk was found only at the various ministries in Bucharest and at the Central Committee Office of the Communist Party in that city. where such milk was distributed to the favored sports club members may possibly 25X1 Party members. have been given milk several times a week; this had been either acidulated, pasteurized or mixed with cocoa. Such milk was available in small bottles.
- It is 25X1 13. possible that a physician, on his own initiative, might perform such a test to locate the source of tuberculosis, but this procedure did not represent a regular public health job. Milk obtained from peasants was routinely checked for dilution with water by testing with a lactometer. The hygiene laboratories of Cluj University performed milk analyses if they were requested to do so by a milk cooperative. This was not, however, a normal control procedure.
- 14. Milk was obtained from water buffalo in Rumania. There were many of these animals in the country, especially in Transylvania. These animals were of the type found in Southeast Asia. Their milk was regarded as high in fat content by the people.

#### Sewage, Garbage Disposal and Pest Control

Cluj had a sanitary sewage system which was available to about 70% of the population. In that part of the city, e.g. on higher hills, where the system was not available, sewage was removed in containers at night by a special service. This latter system was not efficient and wastes were occasionally incompletely removed. The sewage system 25X1 emptied into the Somes River.

this sewage received some purification. there were two systems in Cluj, one for human excreta, and the other for water runoff.

25X1

this custom was followed in the 25X1 Rumanian villages, especially in the winter. Vegetables were grown on such land but I do not know whether this applied to the Cluj periphery.

There was a drainage system to carry surface runoff in Cluj, though occasionally there was an overflow. In 1950, considerable work was 16. done on canalization around the Pasteur Institute location in Cluj. There were storm sewers but no open ditches. There were no ponds around the city.

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- 17. Garbage was normally deposited in open containers along the public streets where it was collected once or twice a week by trucks and taken to a disposal field located about 500 m from the eastern border of town near the Cancer Institute. This system was unsanitary, but it was the usual procedure followed in Cluj. The garbage dump cdor was frequently blown towards the city by the wind. Gypsies lived near the dump and scavenged there.
- dead animals were cremated. Human bodies were usually buried. There was a crematorium in Bucharest, but cremation was rare.
- 19. There was no regular system of pest control in Cluj. A physician learned of cases of contagious disease only when the patient reported to him. He normally did not search out the disease. On finding a case, the physician described it to the hygienist-physician of the Health Ministry office who then made an epidemiological investigation, instituted a quarantine, and took the measures necessary to prevent the spread of disease.
- 20. Furing a typhus epidemic in 1946, non-specialized personnel controlled and inspected the hygienic condition of all buildings in Cluj. No other measures were taken to remove vermin from the buildings for from the area. There were many fleas, flies and lice in the buildings in Cluj. Along the banks of the Somes there were many large rats; no measures have ever been taken to exterminate them.
- 21. There were two sections of Cluj which were regarded as very unhealthy. One, known as the Tigania, was in the center of the city behind the opera house. Plans to demolish this quarter were accepted, and in 1950 the job of removing the inhabitants and resettling them in the Cluj suburbs was started. The second slum area of Cluj, known as Dragalina, was on the bank of the Somes River on the same side of the river as the Children's Asylum.

#### Medical and Hospital Facilities

22. There were about 20 hospitals in Cluj, furnishing about 2,200 beds. Of this number, about 250 beds were in the Children's Asylum and the Institute for the Aged. Another 100 beds were available in the homes for the blind and the deaf and dumb.

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- The hospitals had available services in medicine, surgery, dentistry, nursing and obstetrics. These services, however, were inadequate, especially the medical service and children's care. Usually the sick had to wait one to three days before being accepted in the hospitals. In serious cases, sitra space was improvised, however, Convalescence in the hospital was sharply curtailed and cases were dismissed very quickly, in order to make room for others.
- 24. The main shortage in Cluj with regard to medical care was in common drugs. Pharmaceuticals were available only in small quantities and were of poor quality. Sulfonamides made in Rumania were available, and, beginning in 1951, Soviet and Danish penicillin appeared in pharmacies on rare occasions. Organ extracts were scarce. Foreign made drugs were practically unobtainable through normal cutlets.

#### Local Health and Welfare Administration

25. The Ministry of Health had an active Tuberculosis Control Division.

A Venereal Disease Control Section also existed, although it was not as active as the Tuberculosis Control Division; there was recognition of the VD problem, however, and consister measures were more common than they had been in the past. Tuberculosis and venereal disease have recently become more widespread and require greater attention. The TB Control Division in Cluj was outstanding in Rumania.

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- 26. The existing Sanitation Control Division was inoperative. A service for the protection of mothers and children existed and was well organized, but practical facilities were unavailable. There was no state organization which really concerned itself with the public welfare. The only group which kept close check on the people's lives and activities was the Security Police, who maintained close watch 25x1 on all activities which might be harmful to the State. There was no follow-up of cases of infectious diseases by any "welfare" workers.
- 27. There was a group in Cluj who were educating children taken

  as militant Communists.

  this training, was being given in a building belonging to the Neurology Department of the Cluj Medical School.

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  25X1
- 28. The Red Cross supposedly existed, but had no functions. The International Red Cross was regarded as a spy organization.
- 29. Communicable diseases had to be reported according to a published table of urgency for reporting diseases. The Armed Forces reported incidents of infectious disease by telegraph to the Chief Medical Officer.
- 30. Babies received immunizations against children's diseases and against smallpox. A re-vaccination against smallpox was given at the age of seven. Adults were expected to receive immunizations against typhoid and paratyphoid A & B, but the people were not conscientious about reporting for this inoculation, nor was the task performed conscientiously by the physicians. Only 10% of the population complied. In Cluj and other cities, children received the tuberculin test and BCG vaccination.
- 31. Workers and their families (about 10% of the city's population) received medical care from the dispensary of the employing factory. Students (10% of the population) were cared for by the Students' Polyclinic. Employees of the Rumanian Railway System (Caile Ferate Romane -- CFR) and their families, who made up six per cent of the population of Cluj, were cared for by the CFR Polyclinic. The rest of the population was cared for at the City Polyclinic or at clinics of the university. Civilians benefited from the Cluj hospitals in proportion to their political standing or service to the government.

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